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MUNCIE RECEIVES \$12.3 MILLION HOUSING GRANT

Pence Says Grant Will Help Spur Economic Development

Washington, Mar 4, 2003 - WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Congressman Mike Pence announced today that the Muncie, Indiana Housing Authority will receive a \$12.3 million housing grant from the federal government to help revitalize the Munsyana Homes public housing development.

“This is an enormous accomplishment for Muncie, Mayor Canan and every city official who has worked so tirelessly to make the vision of downtown revitalization a reality,” said Pence. The Congressman has worked with Muncie Mayor Dan Canan and city leaders to make the housing grant a top priority since coming to Congress.

Pence also praised the White House and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the decision. “I commend the Bush Administration and Secretary Mel Martinez for embracing our shared vision for a new downtown for ‘Middletown’ in the 21st Century,” Pence said.

The grant will enable the Housing Authority to revitalize the Munsyana Homes public housing development. Two hundred and seventy-nine units will be demolished and replaced with 62 units of public housing, 138 affordable rental units and 44 homeownership units.

Pence said the grant will benefit the approximately 171 families currently residing at Munsyana. The new site plan will incorporate traditional architectural and landscape features with the surrounding residential neighborhoods, including single-family homes, duplexes and quads.

Pence also noted that the development will provide housing and programs to foster self-sufficiency among residents with a range of incomes, including computer training and job

readiness programs.

Financing for the projects includes low income housing tax credits; funds from the city and state and loans from private lending institutions.

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